

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 2006 TENNESSEE STATE GOSPEL SINGING CON- VENTION

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2006 Tennessee State Gospel Singing Convention. For 72 years, this convention has been celebrating the State's rich gospel singing tradition. This year, the two-day event will be held in Carthage, TN, which I am proud to represent in this esteemed body.

This statewide convention began in 1934 with the goal of honoring Tennessee's historical roots in the gospel movement. By building on traditions of county music festivals, the convention drew a crowd of more than 6,000 people just 4 years later.

Since then, the festival has drawn several noted performers from across Tennessee and surrounding States. Along with quality entertainment, the convention also boasts a string of acclaimed leaders, including Sergeant Alvin C. York, who once served as vice president of the convention.

Today, the Tennessee State Gospel Singing Convention draws hundreds of people and continues to honor the tradition of gospel music in Tennessee. I am sure this year's convention will be a wonderful event and I commend all involved for their commitment to preserving Tennessee culture.

IN HONOR OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PINE CITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to recognize the First Baptist Church of Pine City which will celebrate its 100th anniversary this August. This is a significant milestone for a church community dedicated to fellowship and service.

The First Baptist Church of Pine City was founded in 1906 under the guidance of Rev. John Smith. The congregation spent the first decade worshiping in temporary locations throughout Pine City, including a brush harbor on Rev. Smith's farm, the Beaten School, and even an old house. The church community finally bought land for a church on November 4, 1916 from Parker C. and Georgia Ewans for just \$10.00. Once the sale was finalized, the congregation came together to build a church, pitching in to cut down trees and haul lumber from the saw mill.

When the congregation outgrew this facility in 1954, the community came together once again to build the current First Baptist Church of Pine City. Members raised money for the new building by selling dinner plates on Sun-

days after the church service, donating daily salaries earned by picking cotton in the fields, and even raffling off a bale of cotton. The congregation has made many improvements to the church over the years and looks forward to continuing these improvements in the future.

A total of 21 preachers have served the First Baptist Church of Pine City over the last 100 years including the current pastor, Rev. I.E. Holland, Sr., who has led the community in worship for 22 years. On August 13, 2006, the First Baptist Church of Pine City will gather to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their church community. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the congregation on this important day and sending our best wishes for many more years of worship and service to the Lord.

TRIBUTE TO AUSTIN COUNTY REPUBLICANS

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the great County of Austin in my home State of Texas.

There are few places in our great Nation where the people of one county take such pride and interest in their politics and the issues which affect their lives. Austin County is one of those few and special places.

I am particularly fortunate to represent the Republicans of Austin County. It is from this special group of people that I am able to gain insight and perspective on the issues we deal with everyday right here in our Nation's Capitol.

This exceptional community of loyal Americans strongly supports America's efforts against terrorism, both at home and abroad in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Republicans of Austin County also respect the traditional and American values that we work so hard to protect here in Washington.

In Austin County, they know marriage is between one man and one woman, and they know the words "Under God" belong in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag which flies over our great land.

Austin County Republicans also appreciate and understand the need to secure America's borders. I know when we discuss real ways to solidify the security of our borders, this Congress has the full support of the Austin County GOP.

I know we have their backing when we explore ways to stop the growing problem of illegal immigrants breaking into our Nation.

And, I know the elected leaders of our land have the support of Austin County Republicans when we pass laws aimed at providing legal citizens with America's social services, and not those in our Nation illegally.

But it's not just about immigration and protecting America's values.

The Republicans of Austin County are a fiscally sound and smart bunch of men and women who care very deeply about America's financial welfare. This is why we have their full support for tax cuts which keep more money in American pockets, and their support for legislation that has added more than 5 million new jobs to our economy.

Mr. Speaker, when we pass legislation to help make our Nation more secure and prosperous, we are doing so for people like my friends in Austin County, TX.

When we develop new and cheaper ways to power our homes and cars as we have in this Congress, we are doing so for people like those living in Austin County.

So Mr. Speaker, it is my hope you will join me tonight in honoring those hard working and God fearing people of Austin County, TX's GOP.

Each day they work very hard to help the Members of this body keep the United States a secure and prosperous nation, and for that they deserve our continued appreciation.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT AT- TACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I voted in favor of H. Res. 921. The recent attacks against the State of Israel should be condemned and terrorists and their state sponsors should be held accountable. I supported this resolution because I believe that Israel, as a sovereign democratic state, has the right to defend herself against aggression. Furthermore, the attacks on Israel came from Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon, lands from which Israel had withdrawn in the interests of peace.

However, I do have deep concerns about the scale of the Israeli response. I mourn the loss of life among all the suffering peoples of the region. We must actively work towards a peaceful solution to this crisis.

I do not believe that my vote in favor of this resolution provides President Bush with the authority to take direct military action against Lebanon, Syria, Iran or any other nation involved and my vote should not be interpreted as a vote in favor of such action. I insist that the President seek congressional approval if at any point he intends to take military action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my rollcall vote 397. Due to a fender

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.